

Message Text

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62-S

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3467

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: U.S. PAPER ON MBFR NEGOTIATING PROGRAM

FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH

1. SUBMISSION BY U.S. OF PROPOSED MBFR NEGOTIATING APPROACH AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM OF MBFR WORK HERE. PERMREPS HAVE PRESSED ON THIS AND IN RESPONSE TO THEIR FREQUENT INQUIRIES IN RECENT WEEKS, I HAVE INDICATED THAT WE HOPED THAT U.S. PAPER WOULD BE AVAILABLE AROUND MID-JULY.

2. FAILURE BY THE U.S. TO PROVIDE A FOCUS FOR ALLIED DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT ON A NEGOTIATING PROGRAM BEFORE BEGINNING OF AUGUST COULD MEAN THAT THERE WILL BE LITTLE HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION TO THIS ESSENTIAL TASK IN ALLIED CAPITALS BEFORE EARLY SEPTEMBER.

3. ASIDE FROM THE LOSS OF TIME FOR DEVELOPING AN ALLIED CONSENSUS, SUCH A LAPSE COULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL NEGATIVE SIDE EFFECTS:

A. ENHANCED STATUS FOR SUBMISSIONS OF OTHERS -- E.G., UK STEERING CONFIDENTIAL

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BRIEF IN SEPTTEL, BELGIAN PAPER ON SCOPE AND METHOD OF REDUCTIONS (USNATO 3343) WHICH WILL BE TABLED SHORTLY -- WHICH MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH U.S. PREFERENCES.

B. EROSION OF ALLIED CONFIDENCE IN U.S. INTENTION TO CONSULT
FULLY WITH THEM ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES PRIOR TO NEGOTIATIONS.

4. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN I MAY EXPECT TO RECEIVE U.S. PAPER TO
CIRCULATE HERE.

RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

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